

Hong Kong Customs combats unfair trade practices at foreign domestic helper agency

Hong Kong Customs today (July 5) arrested a male director cum salesperson of a domestic helper agency suspected of having applied a false trade description to the employment services supplied, in contravention of the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (TDO).

Customs earlier received information alleging that staff members of a domestic helper agency had made a false claim to a customer on the matters relating to the application for employment of the domestic helper in the provision of employment agency service.

After investigation, Customs officers today arrested a 28-year-old man.

Investigation is ongoing and the arrested man has been released on bail pending further investigation.

Customs reminds traders to comply with the requirements of the TDO and consumers to procure services at reputable shops.

Under the TDO, any trader who applies a false trade description to a service supplied to a consumer commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Members of the public may report any suspected violations of the TDO to the Customs 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).